

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 038150

FOLLOWING REPEAT NAIROBI 2172 ACTION SECSTATE
INFO ADDIS ABABA DAR ES SALAAM LAGOS LOME LUSAKA MONROVIA 17 FEB 77

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 2172

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, UG, TZ, NI, LI, OAU

SUBJECT: WEST AFRICAN MEDIATION IN EAST AFRICA

REF: MONROVIA 1125 (NOTAL)

1. NIGERIAN FONMIN GARBA VISITED KENYA ON FEB, 15,
BEARING MESSAGE FROM OBSANJO FOR KENYATTA (WHICH
HE DELIVERED THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY). GARBA
ARRIVED FROM TANZANIA AND WENT ON TO UGANDA. HE
TOLD PRESS IN NAIROBI THAT NIEGERIA CONCERNED ABOUT
DETERIORATING RELATIONS BETWEEN TANZANIA AND KENYA.
CLOSE ON GARBA'S HEELS HAS LEBERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
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DENNIS WHO ALSO REPORTEDLY OFFERED TO MEDIATE BETWEEN
KENYA AND TANZANIA (REFTEL).

2. GARBA SOUGHT TO PLAY MEDIATING ROLE BETWEEN KENYA
AND UGANDA FOLLOWING ENTEBBE RAID LAST SUMMER, BUT
WITHOUT NOTABLE IMPACT ON SITUATION, NEITHER HE NOR
DENNIS ARE LIKELY TO ACHIEVE MUCH THIS TIME EITHER.

WE UNDERSTAND NEITHER OF THEM WAS INVITED BY GOK.

3. ONE REASON FOR NIEGERIAN AND LIBERIAN CONCERN
ABOUT DEVISIVENESS IN EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY IS
REPORTEDLY THEIR FEAR THAT DEMISE OF EAC WOULD HAVE NEGATIVE
IMPACT ON ECONOMIC INTERGRATION EFFORTS IN WEST AFRICA.

4 IN THE CASE OF GARBA, AT LEAST, PURPOSE OF TRIP
TO EAST AFRICA MAY HAVE BEEN PRIMARILY TO DRUM UP
SUPPORT FOR NIGERIAN POSITIONS AT FORTHCOMING OAU
MINISTERIAL IN LOME, E.G. , ON SHODESIA.
MARSHALL.
UNQUOTE HARTMAN.

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